

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/678,533

Examiner

Haissa Philogene

Applicant(s)

HAVLIK ET AL.

Art Unit

2828

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 05/16/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5-19, 21-25, 29 now renumbered 1-24.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 9/27/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Hajssa Philogene
Primary Examiner

Hajssa Philogene
A.U. 2828

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mark A. Hollingsworth on September 27, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 17, line 12, after "constant current" the following has been inserted: --wherein the current source comprises a bias generation circuit coupled to provide a bias voltage in response to the lighting control signal; and a current conduction device coupled to receive the bias voltage and coupled to provide the substantially constant current in response to the bias voltage--.

In claim 5, line 1, "4" has been changed to -1--.

Claim 20 has been cancelled;

In claim 21, line 1, "20" has been changed to -17--.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art fails to disclose a driver circuit or an environmental control system having, inter alia, a current source comprising a bias generation circuit coupled to provide a bias voltage in response to the input voltage or lighting control signal and a current conduction device

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coupled to receive the bias voltage and coupled to provide a substantially constant current in response to the bias voltage (claims 1 and 17); a LED control circuit and a method of controlling backlighting associated with a display having at least means for storing charge from a power source in a first phase of operation when a bias voltage supplying at least one LED is less than a forward voltage required by the LED wherein the power source provides a voltage level lower than the forward voltage required by the LED; in a second phase of operation, means for combining an operating voltage with the stored charge to illuminate the LED using the combined voltage as the bias voltage (claims 10, 29); a method of controlling a luminescent state of a LED having at least the step of generating a substantially constant current from the input signal comprising forming a bias signal in response to the second phase of the input signal and inducing a conductive state of a current control device in response to the bias signal, wherein the substantially constant current is proportional to the bias signal and applying the boosted signal and the substantially constant current to illuminate the LED (claim 25). The remaining claims 2, 3, 5-9, 11-16, 18, 19 and 21-24 are allowed by virtue of their dependencies on the independent claims. Hence, the examiner has allowed claims 1-3, 5-19, 21-25 and 29.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Haissa Philogene whose telephone number is (571) 272-1827. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 A.M.-6:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MinSun Harvey can be reached on (571)272-1835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

hp

Haissa Philogene
Primary Examiner
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